

4 shows the first iron core member in which plural magnetic pole segments 3 are aligned via an end face 3c and an end face 3d of each segment.

Page 13, please replace the paragraph at lines 6-15 as follows:

The stator is structured as described above, the bottom portion 2a of the slot forms the curved line, so that the stress of the load is distributed to the straight line portions 3k and 3l formed from around the connection portion 9 toward the projected portion 3g, and is not concentrated to the bottom portion 2a of the slot at the time of forming the iron core 7 circularly or at the time of fixing the stator of the electric motor in the housing and the like by press-fitting or shrink-fitting. Therefore, the magnetic performance is not lost, and further problems can be eliminated that the efficiency of the electric motor becomes worse, sufficient stiffness cannot be kept, or vibration or noise is generated on driving the electric motor.

#### IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 2-9, 11, 12 and 14-18 without prejudice.

Please amend Claim 1 to read as follows:<sup>2</sup>

1. (Amended) A stator iron core of an electric motor comprising:

plural magnetic pole segments, each having a back yoke portion and a teeth portion projected from the back yoke portion, said each of the plural magnetic pole segments being connected together via a connection portion provided to the back yoke portion; and

an insulator member disposed on a wall surface of the teeth portion and extending at about 90° so as to cover a wall surface of the back yoke portion including a bottom portion of a slot formed at an intersection of adjacent back yoke portions,

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<sup>2</sup>A marked-up copy of the changes made to this claim is attached.